

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
EASTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
v.) No.
)
SIXTY-THREE THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED)
AND SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS IN U.S.)
CURRENCY (\$63,575.00),)
)
Defendant.)

VERIFIED COMPLAINT OF FORFEITURE

COMES NOW, Plaintiff, the United States of America, by and through its attorneys, Jeffrey B. Jensen, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri, and Kyle T. Bateman, Assistant United States Attorney, for said district, and for its Verified Complaint for Forfeiture states as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is a civil action *in rem* brought by the United States of America seeking forfeiture of all right, title, and interest in the above-captioned defendant property pursuant Title 21, United States Code, Section 881(a)(6) and Title 18, United States Code, Sections 981(a)(1)(A) and (C).
2. The defendant property was seized by law enforcement on or about April 2, 2018, and is described more fully as sixty-three thousand, five hundred and seventy-five dollars in U.S. currency (\$63,575.00) (the “defendant property”).

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3. The Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Sections 1345, 1355, and 1395.

4. Venue is proper pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 1335(b)(1)(A) because the acts and omissions giving rise to forfeiture took place in the Eastern District of Missouri. Venue is also proper pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 1395(b) because the defendant currency was seized in the Eastern District of Missouri.

STATUTORY FRAMEWORK

5. Title 21, United States Code, Section 881(a)(6) authorizes the civil forfeiture of “all moneys, negotiable instruments, securities, or other things of value furnished or intended to be furnished by any person in exchange for a controlled substance or listed chemical in violation of this subchapter, all proceeds traceable to such an exchange, and all moneys, negotiable instruments, and securities used or intended to be used to facilitate any violation of this subchapter.”

6. Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(a)(1)(A)(i) criminalizes conducting a transaction, including transferring, delivering, or other disposition, knowing that such transaction represents the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity and that in fact involves the proceeds of a specific unlawful activity, including violations of the Controlled Substances Act, with the intent to promote the carrying on of the specified unlawful activity.

7. Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(a)(1)(B) criminalizes conducting a transaction, including transfer, delivery, or other disposition, knowing that such transaction represents the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity and that in fact involves the proceeds of a specific unlawful activity, including violations of the Controlled Substances Act, knowing that

the transaction is designed in whole or in part to conceal or disguise the nature, location, source, ownership, or control of the proceeds of specified unlawful activity.

8. Pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(A), any property, real or personal, involved in a transaction or attempted transaction in violation of section 1956 of Title 18, or any property traceable to such property, is subject to civil forfeiture.

9. Title 18, United States Code, Section 1952 criminalizes traveling in interstate commerce with the intent to distribute the proceeds of any unlawful activity, including a business enterprise involving controlled substances, or otherwise promoting, managing, establishing, carry on, or facilitating the promotion, management, establishment, or carrying on, of such unlawful activity.

10. Pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C), any property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1952 is subject to civil forfeiture.

FACTS GIVING RISE TO THE FORFEITURE

11. Juana Vazquez-Hernandez (“Hernandez”), Maria Mendoza-Vasquez (“Mendoza”) and Rodrigo Ortiz-Cruz (“Ortiz”) are all residents of San Rafael, California.

12. On April 2, 2018, Hernandez, Mendoza and Ortiz were travelling in a gray Chevrolet Suburban (the “Suburban”) headed west on Interstate 70 within the Eastern District of Missouri. Hernandez was driving the vehicle, Mendoza was in the front passenger seat and Ortiz was in the rear passenger seat. The Suburban was trailering another vehicle on a car dolly.

13. At approximately 1:23 am, law enforcement officers conducted a valid traffic stop of the Suburban near the 205 mile marker in Foristell, Missouri. Officers noticed that the Suburban was trailering another vehicle on a car dolly.

14. Officers approached the Suburban and made contact with the driver, Hernandez. Hernandez was not able to produce a driver's license.

15. Cruz identified himself with a Mexico Consular identification. Vasquez identified herself with a California driver's license.

16. At the officers' request, Hernandez agreed to exit the Suburban and accompany one of the officers in the patrol vehicle for records checks.

17. While in the patrol vehicle, Hernandez told officers she did not have a driver's license because she was not a United States citizen. Hernandez stated that she had been in Wisconsin visiting family for the preceding fifteen days. Hernandez stated that she owned the Suburban and that she purchased the vehicle in tow in Wisconsin for \$4,000 and was taking it back to California. Officers asked Hernandez if she was employed and she stated that she picks grapes in California. Throughout the conversation, Hernandez appeared to understand the English language. However, Hernandez appeared nervous and was fidgeting with her fingers, she continuously looked away, her voice cracked, and she did not provide logical answers to basic questions.

18. A trained, certified and reliable drug detection canine was deployed for a "free air sniff" of the Suburban. The canine gave an affirmative response to the presence of a controlled substance near the rear cargo area of the Suburban.

19. When asked if she possessed any narcotics or large amounts of currency inside the vehicles, Hernandez said "no". Officers asked Hernandez for consent to search both vehicles. Hernandez gave consent to search the vehicles.

20. In the center console of the Suburban was a statue depicting the patron saint "Jesus Malverde," which the officers recognized as a "narco-saint" from Sinaloa, Mexico, commonly

associated with drug trafficking. Officers also discovered what appeared to be a shrine that included several statutes of “Santa Muerte”, loose currency, candles and fresh flowers scattered about. Officers also observed several cell phones around the front center console area.

21. Officers opened the cargo door of the Suburban and observed it to be heavily packed with multiple suitcases and bags.

22. Due to these observations and inclement weather, the traffic stop was moved to Superior Towing.

23. At the towing facility, officers conducted a further search of the Suburban. During the search, officers located a black bag behind the back passenger seat in the cargo area. The black bag contained a silver package with a large amount of undetermined currency, bundled with rubber bands. Later that day, the currency was electronically counted and determined to be \$63,575.00.

24. Officers asked Hernandez about the currency and she stated that she spoke limited English. Officers advised Hernandez that she and her occupants could consult with the Mexican Consulate if they desired. Hernandez stated that a Spanish speaking officer would suffice.

25. A Spanish-speaking officer arrived on the scene and advised each subject of their Miranda rights in Spanish and then interviewed Hernandez, Mendoza and Ortiz. Hernandez and Mendoza provided written consent to search their phones, but Ortiz refused to consent to a search his phone.

26. In her interview, Hernandez first stated that the defendant property was from her casino winnings. Hernandez later said that only a small portion of the defendant property was from casino winnings, and that the rest of the defendant property was given to her by her deceased husband. Hernandez later changed her story and signed a disclaimer form stating that she has no interest in the defendant property.

27. In her interview, Mendoza stated that she had no knowledge of the defendant property and signed a disclaimer form.

28. In his interview, Ortiz stated that he had no knowledge of the defendant property.

29. An examination of Hernandez's cell phone revealed text messages showing that Hernandez had recently been in Virginia and had been carrying "200 pounds of eight different kinds". The text message history also showed numerous different addresses. Finally, there were multiple pictures of marijuana on her phone.

30. A trained, certified and reliable drug detection canine was deployed for a discretionary sniff of the defendant property. The canine gave an affirmative response to the presence of a controlled substance on the defendant property.

COUNT ONE – FORFEITURE
21 U.S.C. § 881(a)(6)

31. The United States incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 to 30 above as if fully set forth herein.

32. The defendant property is bulk U.S. currency that was discovered by law enforcement officers in bundles and wrapped in rubber bands, in a manner that is consistent with drug trafficking. In addition, the defendant property was found concealed in a silver package in the trunk of a vehicle occupied by Hernandez, who provided inconsistent explanations of its source, ownership and intended use. Hernandez's cell phone contained images and texts consistent with the distribution of bulk marijuana. Finally, a trained, certified and reliable narcotics canine alerted positively to the presence of a controlled substance on the defendant property.

33. Based on the foregoing, the defendant property is subject to forfeiture pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 881(a)(6) as money furnished or intended to be furnished in exchange for a controlled substance, as proceeds traceable to such an exchange, and as money to

be used to facilitate a violation of the Controlled Substances Act.

COUNT TWO – FORFEITURE
18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(A)

34. The United States incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 to 30 above as if fully set forth herein.

35. The defendant property is proceeds of an unlawful activity involving controlled substances and was transported through the Eastern District of Missouri with the intent to promote the carrying on of, and to conceal or disguise the nature, location, source, ownership or control of, a specified unlawful activity.

36. Based on the foregoing, the defendant property is subject to forfeiture, pursuant to Title 18, United Stated Code, Section 981(a)(1)(A) as property involved in a transaction or attempted transaction in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956, or as property traceable to such property.

COUNT THREE – FORFEITURE
18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C)

37. The United States incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 to 30 above as if fully set forth herein.

38. The defendant property is proceeds of an unlawful activity involving controlled substances that travelled in interstate commerce with the intent to distribute it, and otherwise promote, manage, establish, carry on, or facilitate the promotion, management, establishment, or carrying on, of an unlawful activity involving controlled substances.

39. Based on the foregoing, the defendant property is subject to forfeiture, pursuant to Title 18, United Stated Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) as property that constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1952.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the United States of America prays that a Warrant for Arrest be issued in rem for the defendant property and the defendant property be condemned and forfeited to the United States of America, in accordance with the provisions of law; and that the United States of America be awarded its costs in this action, and have such other relief as provided by law and the nature of the case may require.

Respectfully submitted,

JEFFREY B. JENSEN
United States Attorney

/s/ *Kyle T. Bateman*
KYLE T. BATEMAN, #996646DC
Assistant United States Attorney
111 South Tenth Street, 20th Floor
St. Louis, Missouri 63102

VERIFICATION

I, Special Agent Christopher T. Most, hereby verify and declare under penalty of perjury that I am a Special Agent with the Drug Enforcement Administration, that I have read the foregoing Verified Complaint in rem and know the contents thereof, and that the matters contained in the Verified Complaint are true to my own knowledge, except that those matters herein stated to be alleged on information and belief and as to those matters I believe them to be true.

The sources of my knowledge and information and the grounds of my belief are the official files and records of the United States, information supplied to me by other law enforcement officers, as well as my investigation of this case, together with others, as a Special Agent of the Drug Enforcement Administration.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on: 12/21/18
(date)


Christopher T. Most
Special Agent
Drug Enforcement Administration

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS		DEFENDANTS		
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff _____ <small>(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)</small>		County of Residence of First Listed Defendant _____ <small>(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)</small> <small>NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE LAND INVOLVED.</small>		
(c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) 		Attorneys (If Known) 		
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION <small>(Place an "X" in One Box Only)</small>		III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES <small>(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)</small>		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Federal Question <small>(U.S. Government Not a Party)</small>		Citizen of This State <input type="checkbox"/> PTF <input type="checkbox"/> DEF <small>Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State</small>		
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 U.S. Government Defendant <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Diversity <small>(Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)</small>		Citizen of Another State <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Foreign Nation		
		<small>PTF</small> <small>DEF</small> <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 4		
		<small>PTF</small> <small>DEF</small> <input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 5		
		<small>PTF</small> <small>DEF</small> <input type="checkbox"/> 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 6		
IV. NATURE OF SUIT <small>(Place an "X" in One Box Only)</small>				
CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury	PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractice <input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 610 Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> 620 Other Food & Drug <input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 630 Liquor Laws <input type="checkbox"/> 640 R.R. & Truck <input type="checkbox"/> 650 Airline Regs. <input type="checkbox"/> 660 Occupational Safety/Health <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETITIONS	SOCIAL SECURITY	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	<input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/ Accommodations <input type="checkbox"/> 444 Welfare <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other <input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights	Habeas Corpus: <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition	<input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 730 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting & Disclosure Act <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g))
			FEDERAL TAX SUITS	<input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 810 Selective Service <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 892 Economic Stabilization Act <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 894 Energy Allocation Act <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 900Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
V. ORIGIN <small>(Place an "X" in One Box Only)</small>				Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Original Proceeding	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Removed from State Court	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Remanded from Appellate Court	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Reinstated or Reopened	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Transferred from another district (specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Multidistrict Litigation	<input type="checkbox"/> 7			
Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity) : VI. CAUSE OF ACTION Brief description of cause:				
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: <input type="checkbox"/> CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION <small>UNDER F.R.C.P. 23</small>		DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY <small>(See instructions):</small>		JUDGE _____ DOCKET NUMBER _____		
DATE _____		SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD 		
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY				
RECEIPT # _____		AMOUNT _____	APPLYING IFFP _____	JUDGE _____ MAG. JUDGE _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44**Authority For Civil Cover Sheet**

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

I. (a) Plaintiffs-Defendants. Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.

(b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)

(c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".

II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.C.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.

United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)

III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.

IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerks in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.

V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.

Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment. (7) Check this box for an appeal from a magistrate judge's decision.

VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. **Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.** Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service

VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.

Demand. In this space enter the dollar amount (in thousands of dollars) being demanded or indicate other demand such as a preliminary injunction.

Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.

VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

,)
plaintiff,)
)
)
v.) Case No.
)
)
)
defendant.)

ORIGINAL FILING FORM

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND VERIFIED BY THE FILING PARTY WHEN INITIATING A NEW CASE.

THIS CAUSE, OR A SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT COMPLAINT, WAS PREVIOUSLY FILED IN THIS COURT AS CASE NUMBER _____ AND ASSIGNED TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE _____.

NEITHER THIS CAUSE, NOR A SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT COMPLAINT, PREVIOUSLY HAS BEEN FILED IN THIS COURT, AND THEREFORE MAY BE OPENED AS AN ORIGINAL PROCEEDING.

The undersigned affirms that the information provided above is true and correct.

Date: _____ 

 _____

Signature of Filing Party

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
EASTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
v.) No.
)
SIXTY-THREE THOUSAND, FIVE)
HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIVE)
DOLLARS IN U.S. CURRENCY)
(\$63,575.00),)
)
Defendant.)

WARRANT FOR ARREST OF PROPERTY

TO: THE UNITED STATES MARSHAL AND/OR ANY OTHER DULY AUTHORIZED
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

Whereas, on December 21, 2018, the United States of America filed a Verified Complaint
for Civil Forfeiture in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri,
against the above-named defendant property, alleging that said property is subject to seizure and
civil forfeiture to the United States for the reasons mentioned in the complaint; and

WHEREAS, the defendant property is currently in the possession, custody, or control of the
United States; and

WHEREAS, in these circumstances, Supplemental Rule G(3)(b)(i) directs the Clerk of the
Court to issue an arrest warrant in rem for the arrest of the defendant property; and

WHEREAS, Supplemental Rule G(3)(c) provides that the warrant of arrest in rem must be
delivered to a person or organization authorized to execute it;

NOW THEREFORE, you are hereby commanded to arrest the above-named defendant
property by serving a copy of this warrant on the custodian in whose possession, custody, or

control the property is presently found, and to use whatever means may be appropriate to protect and maintain it in your custody until further order of this Court,

YOU ARE FURTHER COMMANDED, promptly after execution of this process, to file the same in this Court with your return thereon, identifying the individuals upon whom copies were served and the manner employed.

GREGORY J. LINHARES, CLERK
United States District Court

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Date: _____